JAN 19 2005
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

MURATA, Masaya, et al.

Serial No.: **10/680,433**

Filed: **October 8, 2003**

For: **PICKUP DEVICE**

Group Art Unit: **2652**

Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **5628**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 19, 2005

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449, References (3) and European Search Report dated 11/22/04.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. **031744**	Serial No. **10/680,433**
	Applicant(s): **MURATA, Masaya, et al.**	
	Filing Date: **October 8, 2003**	Group Art Unit: **2652**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA						
_____	AB						
_____	AC						
_____	AD						
_____	AE						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF	EP 1 113 428	07/04/01	Europe	Yes
_____	AG	EP 1 148 482	10/24/01	Europe	Yes
_____	AH				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AI	European Search Report dated 11/22/04.
_____	AJ	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 12, 3 January 2001 (2001-01-03) & JP 2000 242953 A (SONY CORP), 8 September 2000 (2000-09-08) *abstract*

Examiner	Date Considered